



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 22

FIFTH SESSION, FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

PRAYER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

The following Bills were read a First Time and had their purposes outlined:

(No. 15) – The Court of King's Bench Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la Cour du Banc du Roi

(Hon. Mr. GOERTZEN)

(No. 16) – The Domestic Violence and Stalking Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la violence familiale et le harcèlement criminel

(Hon. Mr. GOERTZEN)

(No. 17) – The Regulated Health Professions Amendment Act (2)/Loi n° 2 modifiant la Loi sur les professions de la santé réglementées

(Hon. Ms. GORDON)

(No. 223) – The Manitoba Assistance Amendment Act (Adult Education)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les allocations d'aide du Manitoba (éducation des adultes)

(MLA MARCELINO)

(No. 224) – The Transportation Infrastructure Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les infrastructures de transport

(MLA LINDSEY)

Pursuant to Rule 28(1), Messrs. SMOOK, ALTOMARE, MICHALESKI and BUSHIE and Hon. Mr. EWASKO made Members' Statements.

The following petition was presented and read to the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba:

Mr. ALTOMARE – To urge the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure to consult with noise specialists and other experts to help determine the most effective way to reduce the traffic noise and to commit to meaningful action to address resident concern; and to help address this issue with a noise barrier wall along residential portions of the South Perimeter from St. Anne's Road to St. Mary's Road and for River Park South residents.

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Ms. LATHLIN – To urge the Minister of Infrastructure to complete an assessment of PR 224 and implement the appropriate repairs using public funds as quickly as possible.

Mr. MALOWAY – To urge the Provincial Government to work with municipalities to establish a province wide tax rebate or other incentive program to encourage residents and businesses to purchase approved home and business security protection systems.

Mr. SANDHU – To urge the Provincial Government to take steps to implement Punjabi bilingual programs in public schools similar to existing bilingual programs and take steps to implement Punjabi language instruction in other levels of education in Manitoba.

MLA MARCELINO – To urge the Provincial Government to take steps to implement Punjabi bilingual programs in public schools similar to existing bilingual programs and take steps to implement Punjabi language instruction in other levels of education in Manitoba.

Mr. MOSES – To urge the Provincial Government to immediately provide comprehensive and free healthcare coverage to all residents of Manitoba regardless of immigration status, including refugee claimants, migrant workers, international students, dependent children of temporary residents, and undocumented residents; to urge the Minister of Health and Seniors Care to undertake a multilingual communication campaign to provide information on expanded coverage to all affected residents; to inform all healthcare institutions and providers of expanded coverage for those without health insurance and the details on how necessary policy and protocol changes will be implemented, and to create and enforce strict confidentiality policies and provide staff with training to protect the safety of residents with precarious immigration status and ensure they can access health care without jeopardizing their ability to remain in Canada.

Mr. REDHEAD – To urge the Provincial Government to provide the services of two nurses to restore essential medical foot care treatment to the City of Thompson effective April 1, 2022.

Mrs. SMITH (Point Douglas) – To urge the Provincial Government to take steps to implement Punjabi bilingual programs in public schools similar to existing bilingual programs and take steps to implement Punjabi language instruction in other levels of education in Manitoba.

The House resumed the debate on the Proposed Motion of Hon. Mr. SMITH (Lagimodière):

THAT Bill (No. 9) – The Liquor, Gaming and Cannabis Control Amendment and Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries Corporation Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la réglementation des alcools, des jeux et du cannabis et la Loi sur la Société manitobaine des alcools et des loteries, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And the debate continuing,

And Mr. SANDHU, Ms. NAYLOR and Messrs. ALTOMARE and MOSES having spoken,

And MLA ASAGWARA speaking at 5:00 p.m. The debate was allowed to remain in their name.

Mr. LAMONT asked Written Questions (Nos. 1 to 4) for reply to the following:

1. Media reported that a Freedom of Information request showed that during the “Convoy Occupation” of the Manitoba Legislature and the blockade at the Emerson border, there were no written records or notes of discussions between the Ministry of Justice, Police services, and the convoy. Why were none of the discussions recorded and who was responsible for making that decision?
2. How did the Provincial Government make decisions, give advice, track and plan operations without recording discussions surrounding the “Convoy Occupation” at the Manitoba Legislature that lasted many days, and also caused slowdowns on highways and blockades at the U.S. border involving multiple police and security forces such as the Winnipeg Police Service, RCMP, and legislative security?
3. It is a matter of public record that the “Convoy Occupation” included threats, intimidation, occupations and blockades, and its organizers like Pat King had made repeated threats of implied violence on social media for months, stating that politicians and others would be targeted with live ammunition. Will the Premier share the RCMP’s full assessment report with Manitobans considering that she wrote to the Prime Minister that based on the advice of the RCMP the Provincial Government was “unaware of any activity involving espionage or sabotage, clandestine foreign-influenced activities or any serious threats of violence directed toward the violent destruction or overthrow of the Canadian government.”?
4. Since assuming leadership, has the current CEO of Manitoba Hydro consulted with First Nations governance on Manitoba Hydro projects, including, but not limited to, Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak in northern Manitoba, and if so how many consultations been conducted?

Ms. LAMOUREUX asked Written Questions (Nos. 5 and 6) for reply to the following:

5. In December 2022, whistleblowers at “The Link”, formerly MacDonald Youth Services, alleged that the organization is in difficulties, with 50% staff turnover, allegations of mistreatment of staff and clients, including Indigenous youth, and questionable financial decisions made by the CEO and Board, with allegations dating back to at least 2019. Is the Minister of Families aware of any complaints or letters of concern to her department about The Link prior to the letters from whistleblowers in December 2022 and January 2023 and further, can the Minister of Families advise who is performing the third party investigation into The Link and what is their mandate?

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6. Can the Minister of Families advise why the CEO and Board of “The Link” were not relieved of their duties after it was decided that serious allegations that included suggestions of preferential hiring of friends and family into management and spending on extensive renovations and furnishing in its brand new building warranted an investigation?

Hon. Mr. GERRARD asked Written Questions (Nos. 7 to 9) for reply to the following:

7. Can the Minister of Health explain the Provincial Government’s current policy regarding critical incident reporting, and how the policy supports health care workers who have been involved in a critical incident?
8. Lions’ Place was originally built to provide affordable housing for seniors and the Provincial Government has agreed to cover the cost of the rent after Lions management requested a 10% rental increase as of April, 2022. Why is the province willing to provide a direct subsidy to a private corporate landlord from Alberta, when it would cost less in the long term to directly support the Lions Foundation?
9. What is the Minister of Health doing to work with the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Manitoba and the Rady Faculty of Health Sciences and Max Rady College of Medicine at the University of Manitoba to enable more international medical graduates to qualify to practice in Manitoba to address the critical shortage of family physicians and physicians in various specialties?

The House then adjourned at 5:00 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 7, 2023.

Hon. Myrna DRIEDGER,
Speaker.